

Indiana State Fair Commission Collapse Incident

Failure Investigation Evidence Storage Facility Protocol

23 November 2011

I. Intent

The components from the Indiana State Fair Grandstand Stage roof system and all suspended production equipment have been relocated to an off-site evidence storage facility. Within the facility all components are organized in a manner that permits easy access for evaluation, documentation, measurement, etc. Some components have been assembled per their pre-relocation condition, while others are staged and organized in adjacent positions.

In order to maintain the integrity of this evidence storage facility and aid in evidence preservation, the following protocol has been developed and implemented to control and track the access of personnel who wish to gain access to the evidence storage facility in addition to controlling the materials within the evidence storage facility.

II. Definition of “Authorized Individual”

An “Authorized Individual” is a person who meets one of the following criteria:

- A. A lawyer (with a proper engagement letter) for any client who has filed a notice with the Office of the Indiana Attorney General under the Indiana Tort Claims Act or who has filed a claim against another party asserting a claim arising from the Saturday, August 13, 2011 accident at the Indiana State Fair.
- B. A lawyer (with proper engagement letter or proof of in-house counsel status) for any Client who reasonably might be required to defend the client or employer against any claim arising from the Saturday, August 13, 2011 accident at the Indiana State Fair.
- C. An engineer or other such technically qualified person with proof of employment or engagement by a client described in either of the first two paragraphs or by a third-party with a significant financial interest in the site, including, but not limited to, insurance companies and their representatives and owners of real or personal property contained in or affected by the accident site. Thornton Tomasetti retains the sole discretion regarding the admittance of said individuals.

- D. A state or local governmental or quasi-governmental entity conducting an investigation pursuant to Indiana or municipal code, or as authorized by Thornton Tomasetti.

III. Facility Security

The evidence storage facility is monitored by private uniformed security personnel during hours at which Authorized Individuals will be permitted on site.

A central station-monitored intrusion detection and alerting system has been installed and will be operational during hours when no TT personnel are on site.

In addition, a high definition time-lapse camera is installed to document site activity 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

IV. Facility Access

Access to the facility is currently obtained through the doorway at the end of the ramp located to the north side of the office bustle at the west side of the evidence storage facility. This Control Point shall serve as the entry for all personnel entering and exiting the facility. Entry permission is based on the following:

- A. Initial Entry. Representatives from Interested Parties shall submit the names of Authorized Individuals by 5:00PM of the evening before access is desired. All information shall be transmitted via email to: siteaccess@sfc.in.gov. Please provide the nature of your involvement with the Incident and names and employer of all persons that will be requesting site access. All names received by this deadline and verified by State personnel as a bona fide Interested Party shall be added to the Authorized Access list.
- B. Entry Location. Individuals wishing to gain access to the facility shall report to the above-referenced door at the west elevation of the facility. Following verification that an individual is listed on the Authorized Access list and a valid State-issued Driver License or Passport is verified, the individual will be permitted to proceed to the Indiana Department of Homeland Security electronic credentialing database system. At this location the Authorized Individual will use their State-issued Driver License to populate a printed credential that shall be visibly displayed at all times while the Authorized Individual is on site.

- C. Ongoing Site Access. For the duration of time that this Protocol is in effect, the subject remains compliant with the Site Regulations and is duly engaged as a representative of an Interested Party, the individual will remain an Authorized Individual and their credential shall remain active. All subsequent entry and exit from the site shall be cataloged through the use of a bar-code reader operated by authorized security personnel at the Control Point.
- D. Vehicular Access to Facility. If approved and scheduled in advance with Indiana State Fair Commission and Thornton Tomasetti personnel, once credentialed, Authorized Individuals shall be permitted to bring a vehicle to the grade-level dock at the east side of the evidence storage location. Requests for access shall be granted when there is a need for vehicular access to drop off or pick up large or cumbersome equipment that cannot fit up the ramp or through the doorway at the Control Point.
- E. Access Requirements. Following a site briefing and execution of a Waiver and Release (Refer to the tab on the incident Home Page at <http://www.in.gov/sfc> for a copy of the Waiver and Release) authorized Individuals will have access to the evidence storage location during the times posted on the Indiana State Fair Commission Incident website at <http://www.in.gov/sfc>

V. Access Schedule

Access Times shall be posted on the Indiana State Fair Commission Incident website at <http://www.in.gov/sfc>

VI. Materials Testing

At such time that specimen location are identified, a materials testing protocol will be initiated for the evaluation of structural components associated with the incident.

Said evaluation and testing will consist of:

- A. Metallurgical evaluation of representative welds to determine conformance with AWS D1.2/D1.2M
- B. Metallurgical evaluation of representative components manufactured from Aluminum alloys for conformance with specifications
- C. Evaluation of guy wire components.
- D. Evaluation of ballast components and resulting anchor capacity.
- E. Evaluation of mass of suspended rigging and production equipment.

A detailed Materials Testing Protocol will be issued and will define the exact parameters and locations of the above-referenced evaluations.

Said testing shall be conducted by an independent testing laboratory and test results shall be disseminated to all Interested Parties.

Interested Parties wishing to conduct their own testing of components shall be permitted to do so at their own cost at such time that the components are released from the evidence storage location. Requests shall be submitted to siteaccess@sfc.in.gov for review and scheduling. No testing shall commence until such time that materials are approved for removal from the evidence storage location. In addition, all Chain of Custody requirements shall be adhered to.

VII. Preservation of Evidence

All on-site components deemed associated with the collapse incident have been cataloged and documented. Thornton Tomasetti has developed and implemented a detailed component cataloging methodology for the identification of all structural members and suspended production equipment located at the collapse location. Said protocol provides for the documentation of member size, location, orientation, and condition in addition to providing for a unique Identifier for each member. This Identifier has been utilized for all tracking of the subject components.

Until such time as the evidence has been released for materials testing every effort should be taken to preserve the integrity of the evidence. No structural or production equipment components shall be moved or displaced.

Electrical, data, and/or sound cables can be removed from their containers for evaluation purposes but shall be returned to their proper storage location by the end of the access hours for that day. Labor for said work shall be provided by the Interested Party requiring evaluation of the cables.

VIII. Relocation of Evidence

Once evaluation and testing is complete and a Final Report issued, the Indiana State Fair Commission will provide a sixty (60) day notice for all Interested Parties wishing to preserve, recover and/or relocate components. Any such subsequent preservation, recovery or relocation efforts shall be at the cost of the Interested Party making said request. After this sixty (60) day period has elapsed, all remaining components shall be disposed of.

X. Limitations

In the event that facility access is affected because of natural disaster or decrees of governmental bodies not the fault of the Indiana State Fair Commission (hereinafter referred to as a "Force Majeure Event"), ISFC shall immediately give notice via the Incident website or other available means. ISFC and their consultants will endeavor to resume access to the site as soon as practical and safe.

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